

## In the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) An article of luggage ~~characterised~~ characterized by a ~~[[ 'soft' ]]~~ "soft" case construction including lid and base forming sections ~~[[ (1, 2) ]]~~ of such construction as to be shape wise self supporting in the absence of a perimeter frame and side, base or back panels whereby the form of the case is established and maintained by the ~~[[ moulded ]]~~ molded lid and base sections.

2. (Currently Amended) An article of luggage ~~characterised~~ characterized by a ~~[[ 'soft' ]]~~ "soft" case construction including lid and base forming sections ~~[[ (1, 2) ]]~~ of such ~~[[ moulded ]]~~ molded form as to be shape wise self supporting in the absence of a perimeter frame and side, base or back panels whereby the form of the case is established and maintained by the ~~[[ moulded ]]~~ molded lid and base sections.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~[[ An ]]~~ The article of luggage as claimed in claim 1, ~~or 2, and characterised~~ characterized in that the case construction does not rely upon the use of corner supports and/or additional side panel forming boards.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~[[ An ]]~~ The article of luggage as claimed in claim 1, ~~2 or 3 and characterised~~ characterized in that the case construction incorporates a carrying handle ~~[[ (24) ]]~~ together with a towing handle ~~[[ ( ) ]]~~ assembly ~~[[ (9) ]]~~ and associated handling support wheels ~~[[ (12) ]]~~.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~[[ An ]]~~ The article of luggage as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1, 2, 3 or 4~~ claim 1, and ~~characterised~~ characterized in that the lid forming and base forming sections ~~[[ (1, 2) ]]~~ incorporate corrugations/recesses ~~[[ (4) ]]~~ so positioned as to counteract wrinkling at the corners of the ~~mouldings~~ moldings.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~[[ An ]]~~ The article of luggage as claimed in claim 1, ~~2, 3, 4 or 5, and characterised~~ characterized in that the lid and base sections ~~[[ (1, 2) ]]~~ are ~~moulded~~ molded from a foamed plastics material such as that known as EVA.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~[[ An ]]~~ The article of luggage as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, and ~~characterised~~ characterized in that the lid and base

sections [(1, 2)] are externally covered by fabric material shaped to conform closely to the external form of the lid and base sections.

8. (Currently Amended) [[An]] The article of luggage as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, and ~~characterised~~ characterized in that the two [[moulded]] molded sections [(1, 2)] are connected together by means including a zip fastener arrangement [(3)] adapted for enabling the hinging of the two sections [(1, 2)] with respect to each other and to provide an opening [[an]] and closing facility to the case.

9. (Currently Amended) [[An]] The article of luggage as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 8, and ~~characterised~~ characterized in that in order to provide capability of volume expansion of the case the zip fastener arrangement incorporates two separately operable zip fasteners [(3A, 3B)], there being a gusset [(3C)] provided between the zipping portions [(13,14)] of one of the fasteners [(3A)] that is associated with volume expansion the arrangement being such that the volume of the case can be increased by appropriate operation of ~~said~~ one of the fasteners.

10. (Currently Amended) [[An]] The article of luggage as claimed in claim 9, and ~~characterised~~ characterized in that in order to provide capability of a multiple volume expansion facility the zip fastener arrangement incorporates additional zip fasteners each having associated therewith an expansion gusset whereby operation of a zip fastener associated with a gusset enables appropriate volume expansion.

11. (Currently Amended) [[An]] The article of luggage as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 10~~ claim 1, and ~~characterised~~ characterized by the provision of a pair of wheels at one end of the base section there being one such wheel to each corner of said end.

12. (Currently Amended) [[An]] The article of luggage as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 10~~, claim 1, and ~~characterised~~ characterized by the provision of a first pair of wheel assemblies [(12)] at one end of the base section [(2)] and a second pair of wheel assemblies at the corresponding end of the lid section [(1)].

13. (Currently Amended) ~~[[An]]~~ The article of luggage as claimed in claim 12, and ~~eharacterised~~ characterized in that the wheel assemblies ~~[[12]]~~ are so located on their respective sections as to lie at the corners of a rectangle.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~[[An]]~~ The article of luggage as claimed in ~~any one of claims 8 to 13~~ claim 8, and ~~eharacterised~~ characterized by runs of piping ~~[[17]]~~ such as to provide stiffness to the Zip zip fastener arrangement ~~[[3]]~~.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~[[An]]~~ The article of luggage as claimed in claim 14 and ~~eharacterised~~ characterized in that the piping ~~[[17]]~~ is stiffened by an internally provided wire ~~(not shown)~~ extending lengthways of the piping.

16. (Currently Amended) ~~[[An]]~~ The article of luggage as claimed in claim 14~~[[or 15]]~~, and ~~eharacterised~~ characterized by piping ~~[[17]]~~ provided in the ~~join~~ joint between the zip fastener portion ~~[[13]]~~ and the lid section ~~[[1]]~~, between the zipping portion ~~[[14]]~~ of fastener ~~[[3A]]~~ and the zipping portion ~~[[15]]~~ of fastener ~~[[3B]]~~ and between the zipping portion ~~[[16]]~~ and the base section ~~[[2]]~~. ~~If desired one or more runs of the piping can be omitted.~~

17. (Currently Amended) A method of producing an article of luggage ~~eharacterised~~ characterized by a ~~[[soft]]~~ "soft" case construction ~~eharacterised by comprising~~ the steps of ~~moulding~~ molding from a material exhibiting ~~[[soft]]~~ "soft" case characteristics lid forming and base forming sections ~~[[1, 2]]~~ of such construction as to be shape wise self supporting in the absence of a perimeter frame and side, base or back panels whereby the form of the case is established and maintained by the ~~moulded~~ molded lid and base sections ~~[[1, 2]]~~.

18. ~~[[A]]~~ The method of producing an article of luggage ~~eharacterised~~ characterized by a ~~[[soft]]~~ "soft" case construction as claimed in claim 17, and ~~eharacterised in that~~ further comprising providing an opening ~~(7) is provided~~ at one end ~~[[8]]~~ of the case to define the location for the mounting of a towing handle arrangement ~~[[9]]~~ for the case.

19. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The method of producing an article of luggage ~~eharacterised~~ characterized by a ~~[[soft]]~~ "soft" case construction as claimed in claim 17 ~~or 18~~, and ~~eharacterised in that~~ further comprising providing an indentation ~~(11) is provided~~ at each

corner of the other end ~~[[10]]~~ of the base section of the case to define mounting locations for a pair of wheels assemblies ~~[[12]]~~.

20. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The method of producing an article of luggage ~~characterised~~ characterized by a ~~['soft']~~ "soft" case construction as claimed in ~~any one of claims 17, or 18~~ claim 17, and ~~characterised in that~~ further comprising providing indentations ~~(11) are provided~~ at each corner of the other ends ~~[[10]]~~ of the base and lid sections to define mounting locations for two wheel assemblies ~~[[12]]~~ in lid section ~~[[1]]~~ and for two wheel assemblies ~~[[12]]~~ at said other end of the base section ~~[[2]]~~.

21. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The method of producing an article of luggage ~~characterised~~ characterized by a ~~['soft']~~ "soft" case construction as claimed in ~~any one of claims 17 to 20~~ claim 17, and ~~characterised in that~~ further comprising providing corrugations/recesses ~~(4) are provided~~ at the corner regions ~~[[5]]~~ of the case.

22. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The method of producing an article of luggage ~~characterised~~ characterized by a ~~['soft']~~ "soft" case construction as claimed in ~~any one of claims 17 to 21~~ claim 17, and ~~characterised~~ characterized in that the lid and base sections are ~~moulded~~ molded from a foamed plastics material such as known as EVA.

23. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The method of producing ~~and an~~ article of luggage ~~characterised~~ characterized by a ~~['soft']~~ "soft" case construction as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims 11 to 22~~ claim 17, and ~~characterised~~ characterized in that the two ~~moulded~~ molded sections ~~[[1, 2]]~~ are connected together by means including a zip fastener arrangement ~~[[3]]~~ adapted for enabling the hinging of the two sections ~~[[1, 2]]~~ with respect to each other and to provide opening ~~[[an]]~~ a closing facility to the case.

24. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The method of producing an article of luggage ~~characterised~~ characterized by a ~~['soft']~~ "soft" case construction as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims 17 to 23~~ claim 17, and ~~characterised~~ characterized in that a capability of volume expansion of the case ~~[[the]]~~ is provided by ~~the~~ a zip fastener arrangement ~~[[3]]~~ incorporating two separately operable zip fasteners ~~[[3A, 3B]]~~, there being a gusset ~~[[3C]]~~ provided between the zipping portions ~~[[13,14]]~~ of one of the fasteners ~~[[3A]]~~ that is associated with

volume expansion, the arrangement being such that the volume of the case can be increased by appropriate operation of ~~said~~ one of the fasteners.

25. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The method of producing an article of luggage ~~characterised~~ characterized by a ~~[[ 'soft' ]]~~ "soft" case construction as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims 17 to 24~~ claim 24, and ~~characterised~~ characterized in that a capability of selective multiple volume expansion of the case is provided by the zip fastener arrangement ~~incorporates~~ incorporating additional zip fasteners each having associated therewith an expansion gusset, ~~[[ (3C) ]]~~ whereby operation of a zip fastener associated with a gusset enables appropriate volume expansion.